



April 15, 2019

Beryl Lipton
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70821
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
70821-4602413@requests.muckrock.com

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request #875982

Dear Mr. Lipton:

This is in response to your March 25, 2019 request made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. You emailed your request to the Office of the Solicitor in the U.S. Department of Labor, and it was forwarded here, to the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS), for a disclosure determination. Your FOIA requests "all budget materials or plans for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019, and all 2017 and 2018 staffing reports and plans, including staffing numbers, for the offices responsible for processing FOIA requests and appeals."

OLMS is committed to the principles of openness and transparency in making disclosure determinations, and it is the policy of the Department of Labor to disclose information to the maximum extent practicable. See 29 C.F.R. §70.3. In reviewing our records, and in making my disclosure determinations, I have kept these considerations in mind.

In so much as you request records from all Department of Labor agencies, this response is solely from OLMS. Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §70.53, the records you seek are publicly available for you to examine. Please see the DOL FOIA Annual Reports, specifically Part IX of the applicable years you seek, posted on the internet at <https://www.dol.gov/sol/foia/reports.htm> FOIA requests for public records that are available pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §70.53 are considered improper requests and not subject to further search or disclosure.

I believe that OLMS has been responsive to your request to the maximum extent practicable. If you need any further assistance, or would like to discuss any aspect of this response to your FOIA request, please contact me at OLMS-FOIA@dol.gov or 202-693-0123. In addition, the DOL FOIA Public Liaison, Thomas Hicks, is available (hicks.thomas@dol.gov or 202-693-5427) to resolve any issues arising from our response to your FOIA request. Alternatively, you


may request mediation services regarding any concerns with our response by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; (o) 202-741-5770 (ph), 1-877-684-6448 (toll free), 202-741-5769 (fax), or email ogis@nara.gov.

If you have made attempts to discuss your issues with us directly or through our Public Liaison and are still not satisfied with our response to your FOIA request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Solicitor of Labor within 90 days from the date of this letter. Send your appeal to foiaappeal@dol.gov or to the Solicitor of Labor, Division of Management and Administrative Legal Services, **FOIA Appeal**, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave, NW, Room N2420, Washington, DC 20210.

An appeal must reference “**FOIA Appeal 875982**” and state in writing the grounds for the appeal. You may include any supporting statements or arguments, but such statements are not required. In order to facilitate processing of the appeal, please include your mailing address and daytime telephone, as well as a copy of the initial request, this letter, and the disclosed records, if any. Any subsequent amendment to an appeal must be made in writing and received by the Office of the Solicitor, by the same means, prior to its decision on your appeal.

Sincerely,

Andrew Auerbach
Deputy Director

By: 
Andrew Davis, Chief
Division of Interpretations and Standards
Office of Labor-Management Standards
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-5609
Washington, D.C., 20210
(o) (202) 693-0123